

# St. Anselm Catholic Church

January 4, 2026  
Epiphany of the LORD



*The Adoration of the Magi—19th Century Mural*

97 Shady Lane, PO Box 1061, Ross, CA 94957  
Parish office phone: (415) 453-2342

Parish office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am--4:00pm

Parish email: [Info@SaintAnselm.org](mailto:Info@SaintAnselm.org)

Parish website: [www.SaintAnselm.org](http://www.SaintAnselm.org)

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**Clergy:** Fr. Gabriel Wankar, Pastor  
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Fr. Gabriel Achiaga -In Residence  
Deacon Ed Cunningham  
Deacon Robert Meave

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**St. Anselm School:** Kim Orendorff, Principal  
School Office: (415) 454-8667  
School Website: [www.StAnselmSchool.com](http://www.StAnselmSchool.com)

## Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm,  
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am, & 5:00pm

**Weekday Mass:** Monday-Friday 8:30am, Rosary 8:00am

**Holy Day Masses:** 8:30am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

**Adoration:** with Rosary, weekdays from 7:25—8:25 am  
& First Fridays from 9 am—12 noon

## Eucharist for Homebound: (415) 453-2342

**Reconciliation:** Before 8:30am weekday Mass, Saturday  
4:00pm-4:45pm, during Adoration on First Fridays 9:00am-  
12:00pm or by Appointment

**Baptism:** Preparation Class required. Please email  
[dre@saintanselm.org](mailto:dre@saintanselm.org) or call the Parish Office ext.105

**Anointing of the Sick:** Anytime upon request.  
Contact Pastor.

**Matrimony:** Six months notification required prior to  
desired date. Contact Pastor.

**St. Vincent de Paul Help Desk:** (415) 454-3303 ext. 11

**Cursillo Information:** Cathy Cunningham  
(415) 453-7174

*St. Anselm's Parish is a Catholic community formed by families, individuals & clergy that worship together, celebrate the sacramental life of the Church, & seek to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ everyday. We welcome, serve, & educate according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church.*

## Pastor's Reflection: Epiphany of the LORD 2026

In the Epiphany story, we see the call of the Gentiles, their enthusiastic response, the significance of the star they seek, the gifts they bring, the dramatic interaction with Herod, and their ultimate rejection of Herod in favor of Christ. These elements ultimately serve to cause them to "return to their country by another route." They journeyed from being mere magi to becoming, by God's grace, wise men. Let us follow their journey in stages:

**The CALL that COMPLETES** – The individuals in the story are labeled magi (*μάγοι (magoi)* in Greek) and are from the East. They are *Gentiles* who have been called. Up until this point in the Christmas story, only Jews had found their way to Bethlehem. This call completes the Church, which needs both Jews and Gentiles. God calls them through something in the natural world: a star. What is the "star" that God uses to call you? Perhaps it is Scripture, but more typically, God uses someone in our life to reach us: a parent, a family member, a friend, a priest, a religious sister, or a devoted layperson. Who are the stars in your life through whom God called you?

**The CONSTANCY that CONQUERS** – Despite the reigning King, Herod, knowing nothing of the birth of this new King, and even the religious leaders, the magi persevered in their search; they did not give up! Many today have found their way to Christ even though parents, clergy, and others who should have led them to Jesus were either asleep, ignorant, or just plain lazy. Constancy is often what it takes to overcome the darkness and discouragements of the world.

**The CONDESCENSION that CONFESSES** – In faith, the Magi set out and continued to follow the star's call. On arrival, they "prostrate" themselves before Jesus. The Greek word used - *προσεκύνησαν* (prosekunēsan) means "to fall down in worship" or "to give adoration," and is used twelve times in the New Testament. The Magi manifest faith! The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord. And these Magi are well on their way from being mere magi to being wise men!

**The COST that COMES** – There is a cost to discipleship. The Magi are moved to give three symbolic gifts that show some of what true faith includes. **Gold** symbolizes all our possessions, saying, "I acknowledge that everything I have is yours. **Frankincense** is a resin used in incense and symbolizes the gift of worship and prayer. **Myrrh** is typically regarded as a burial ointment. Surely this prefigures Jesus' death, but it also symbolizes our own, as when we say to Jesus, "My life is yours."

**The CONVERSION that is CLEAR** – *Warned in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi departed for their country by another way.* Here is essential evidence for faith: conversion. It is not enough to simply be "happy" in Church; we must change direction (*conversio*). Epiphany means "manifestation." How is our faith made manifest in our deeds and conversion?

**A special welcome** to any visitors or those worshipping with us for the first time or those returning home. Please know that you are warmly welcomed & deeply valued in this faith community. Kindly take a moment to leave your contact information in the back of the Church or register at [www.saintanselm.org/register](http://www.saintanselm.org/register) so we can stay in touch.

**We're so glad you're here—Welcome home!**

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Jan. 5</b>	8:30am	Erna La Roque (D)
<b>Tues</b>	<b>Jan. 6</b>	8:30am	Francis Wankar (D)
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Jan. 7</b>	8:30am	Fr. Cameron Faller (INT)
<b>Thur</b>	<b>Jan. 8</b>	8:00am	Parish Staff & Volunteers
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Jan. 9</b>	8:30am	Didine Uwamahoro (INT)
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Jan. 10</b>	5:00pm	Bell Tower Project
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Jan. 11</b>	8:00am	Claude Wundrow (D)
		10:00am	People of the Parish
		5:00pm	Parish Benefactors

## Sick Relatives & Friends

*Note: please call parish office to update names*

**As a community we ask God's blessing for the ill:** Stan & Donna Pechalonis, Mark Gardner, Terese Marklinger, Karen Poligono, Marilyn Marklinger, Don Orlandi, Fr. Neil Healy, Jordan Roggenbuck, Matt Hansen, Jim Sweeney, Bob Hoffman, John Alkazin, Lorraine Matteucci, Deidra Carson, Fr. Bill Brown, Bryan Green, Chris Ryan, Elaine Innes, Arlene Hansen, Rose Michelle D'Haiti, John Peterson, Erin Granucci, Bruce Hubal, Charles Cavagnetto, J.R. Maricich, Isabella O'Brien, Dorothy Laddish, Penny Maioli, Gretchen Libby, Murhal Orendorff, Dennis O'Keefe

**For the Repose of the Soul:** Pauline O'Brien-DeLury, Susan Catinella, Sal Catinella, Linda Biesheuvel, Pat Daly, Katherine Elizabeth Devcich, Catherine Ward, Theresa Sullivan, Michael Killelea, Gary McPartlin

**For Our Military:** Matthew Kerry O'Brien, Robert Gebhardt, Tyler Lopez, Alex Boatwright, Elizabeth Baumsteiger, Christian Miller, Robert Kent, Shane Morgan, Daniel Lowe, & Rob Manifold

## The Pope's Monthly Intentions

January—For prayer with the Word of God.

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

## SAVE THE DATE & COMMUNITY NOTES

- We wish all our beloved parishioners **a wonderful Christmas season & blessings for the New Year.** To our wonderful Parish Council, Church & School Staff, volunteers, the adult & children's choirs, lectors, altar servers, ushers, flower ladies, our benefactors, thank you & may God bless you.
- After the 5pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, January 17, **our parish will hold an evening to celebrate the New Year and welcome all new families & individuals who have joined our parish recently.** It will not just be for the new members, but for all of us—the old parishioners welcoming the new.
- **On Saturday, February 14, 2026, we'll hold a Healing Mass for Divorced/Separated Catholics here in our Church at 9:00 a.m.**

### **Christmas Flower Offerings**

#### **In Memory of**

Bob & Amelia Browning, Ann C., Cloanne W., Sally K., Dorothy L., Rachel B., Kirsten Hoffman, Dani G., Chinky G., Mathew & Arthur Balano, Sharon, Ann, Roland Norlinham, Mr. & Mrs. H.B. Bondesen, Mr. Robert E. Smith, Pashilk Family, Jane Salbeck, Hilarion Salbeck, Deceased Kollerers, Deceased Mullers, Julie Jizrawi, Sheila P. Frohling, Joan & Edward Penney, Agnes & Edward Frohling, Lucille Frohling, Gastalli Family, Nissea Family, Sal, Katherine, & Jomar Lococo, Sandra Guidi, Angela M. Donovan, Daniel P. Donovan, Sal an Sue Catinella, Dot & Frank Carmichael, George McNeil, Rachel Sanchez, Radieve Family, McLaren Family, Lee & Al Abballo, Virginia & Glen Duysen, Fred & Norma Baumsteiger, Paul Taguino, Errol Friedman, Mary Kay & Jim Lowe, Mrs. Rizalina B. Boncan, Pavla & Jiri Pecen, Bill Buckingham, Joseph & Joanna Petrilla, Gloria & Ambrose Gotti, Alice Spalding, Matilde DeFenzi, Matthew Hubal, Helen & Larry Hubal, Salvador & Matilde Olwaises, Rose Shadduck, Colin Edward Schreck, Helen Regina Holodniak, James Harold, Jacob, Myrtle, & Erona Hait, Julius, Marina, Clair, & Gus Mazzon, Bert Keane, Fred & Norma Abballo, Dan & Juliana Abballo, Mario & Cornelia Regalio, Lynn Rode Connie Fox, Joseph, Daniel, & Rita Crowley, the Parente Family, Gordon, Celin, & Cormic Smith, Edna & Florence Anderson, Esther & LB Marshall, Patricia Elvebak, Robin Bishop, Nancy, Bob, & Chip Block, Dorothy & Gifford Cappellini, Norma & Bob Lester, Richard Katerndahl, John and Mary Kast, Jim & Lois Getz, Maria Socorro, Rigoverta, Gerald, Barbara, Tracy, & Robert Phillips, William Baldwin Jr., William Baldwin Sr., Ernie, Doris, & Steve Legnitto, Jack & Geraldine O'Neil, John, Sandy, & Brian Keane

#### **In Honor of**

Antoinette Pappas, Ruth Olsen, Sophia Olsen, Alma Dohmer, Pauline O'Brien-DeLury, Schutz Family, Mialovich Family, Richard Petrocchi, Nelly & Alfonso Martino, Guadalupe & Felix Martino, Carmen & Louis Castro, Manwel Shuwayhat, Patricia Reilly Burke, Bani Ann Kelleher, Barbara Kelleher, Annie Williams, Grace Strait Bapason, Emmanuel Agravante, Mark Chapman

## **Catechesis on Parish Vision and The Eucharist**

Beloved parishioners, in this New Year 2026, I am humbly inviting you, to pray with me over the passage of **Habakkuk 2:2-3** towards a vision of evangelization in our parish. Our Family Life and Relationship Ministry and the Children's Choir will be initial channels of evangelization to invite people into the life of our parish, while deepening our meditation on the Eucharist through catechesis and the sacred liturgy to nourish our daily lives.

The Vatican Council II document, *Lumen Gentium* #11 and the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC1407) teach that “The Eucharist is the heart and the summit of the Church's life, for in it Christ associates his Church and all her members with his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once for all on the cross to his Father; by this sacrifice he pours out the graces of salvation on his Body which is the Church.” The Eucharist nourishes the souls of the faithful and perfectly signifies and admirably realizes the unity of the People of God. Here are a few apparent reminders: Canon 912 of the Code of Canon Law rightly states that **“any baptized person not prohibited by law can and must be admitted to holy communion.”** Canon 916: “A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to celebrate Mass or receive the body of the Lord without previous sacramental confession unless there is a grave reason and there is no opportunity to confess; in this case, the person is to remember the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition which includes the resolution of confessing as soon as possible” (Cf. CCC 1415). In his first letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul also said, “Therefore whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord...For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself” (1 Cor. 11:27, 29).

The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a central dogma of the Catholic faith: “The power of the words and the action of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, make sacramentally present under the species of bread and wine Christ's body and blood, his sacrifice offered on the cross once for all” (CCC 1353). Because the Roman Catholic Church believes and teaches that when we receive Communion, we participate in the body and blood of Christ, not just symbols of them, the faithful must profess this faith each time they receive the sacrament with an “Amen.” The Priest says, “The Body of Christ, to which we respond Amen.” By this Amen (which every Catholic who receives the Eucharist knows), *we espouse publicly the faith and moral teachings of the Catholic Church* and desire to live accordingly. **It is the reason why non-Catholics aren't permitted to receive Holy Communion at Mass.**

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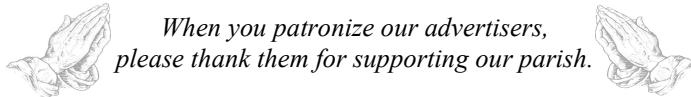
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